

## **VI**

# **Confederates and Spaniards**

THE CIVIL WAR and the reasons for which it was fought aroused loyalties that split up friends, families, states, and finally a whole nation. The Marine Corps was split by these loyalties too. As the tension mounted during the months before the outbreak, many of the Corps' most experienced officers and most of its younger ones resigned and joined the Confederacy. The government of the southern states then established a Marine Corps of its own. Thus

THIRTY-NINE YEARS UNDER ARCHIBALD HENDERSON 73  
hand. The other marines quickly dispersed the gang  
and captured the cannon.

This was one of the final acts of Archibald Henderson, known as "the Grand Old Man of the Marine Corps." For half of his life he had been at the head of the marines. He had lived in the Commandant's house in Washington for so long that he came to regard it as his own. Forgetting that the house was actually government property, he attempted to will it to his heirs. On January 6, 1859, the brave old man died.